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No. II.

ARCHIL TEST PAPER.

MR. LEWTHWAITE communicated to the Society a short notice on test paper, tinged blue by archil, as a substitute for that tinged blue by litmus. On some comparative experiments being made, the archil paper was found to be inferior to litmus paper as a test for acids, in the proportion of about one to five; but as a test for fixed alkalies and lime it is superior in delicacy to turmeric paper, in the proportion of about two to one: it is sooner affected by water mixed with carbonated magnesia, than turmeric paper is, and is also more affected than turmeric by the subsalts of lead. Boracic acid changes the colour of turmeric to red,—an anomaly that is likely to mislead young chemists; no such effect attends the action of boracic acid on archil paper.

No. III.

ITALIAN PLAT WHEAT GROWN IN ENGLAND.

A SMALL quantity of Italian plat wheat having been placed at the disposal of the Society, a few grains were given to Mr. George Aikin, of Harlington, Bedfordshire. These grains, considered as a sample of bread-corn, were very bad, being light, small, and shrivelled. They